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# Monday Morning Eye-Opener December 30, 2019

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## MONDAY MORNING EYE-OPENER

FROM THE STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA



December 30, 2019

## State Library Highlights



### Looking Back at 2019

2019 was a decidedly busy year at the State Library. From welcoming new staff to providing new products and first-ever services, this year was one for the record books. Hence our **Highlight Reel** 🎞️

### New Consultants On Staff

At our library and yours, all credit goes to staff for ensuring great customer service throughout the year.

In January, we welcomed our new **Youth Services Consultant Angie Manfredi**; in November, we welcomed our new **Continuing Education Consultant Samantha Bowers**. Both Angie and Samantha have a great deal of insight and experience to share with the Iowa library community. We're happy to have them as part of the team, leading all of us into a new decade of learning!

### New Digital Resources

**Brainfuse** was the first new product on the scene in 2019, thanks to our partnership with Iowa Workforce Development. **Brainfuse** replaced Learning Express; it's a great source

for job seekers, as well as for veterans needing to navigate their benefits. In addition,

the State Library made 3 more digital products available to public libraries:

**Opposing Viewpoints**, the **Foundation Directory**, and the **Wilson Core Collection**. There's much to learn about these resources because there's so much to promote to your community. Learn more

here <https://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/k-p/online-resources>

## WhoFi

This fall, the State Library was pleased to offer public libraries access to **WhoFi Library Edition**, a usage counter that tracks the number of devices tapping into the library's wireless network. This software provides wireless usage statistics and easy-to-read reports. Data from **Who-Fi** allows directors to easily complete questions on the *Public Library Annual Survey* related to wireless usage. Moreover, insights from the reports help demonstrate the library's impact in the community, leading to data-driven decisions about technology, programming, and more.

## IAShares

In a first-ever service for Iowa public libraries, this November marked the launch of a statewide delivery service. Championed by State Librarian Michael Scott, this delivery service has come to be called **IAShares** (Iowa Shares). Thirty-five van routes canvas the state Monday-Friday, stopping at all 543 public libraries to drop off and pick up interlibrary loan materials. Admittedly, this is a fledgling new service and a huge undertaking for a state like Iowa with so many public libraries. Not surprisingly, there have been some speed bumps along the highways 🚧 We appreciate your patience while **IAShares** gets rolling and encourage you to make good use of important new service.

**A sincere thanks to all of you for your participation and support of State Library services. Cheers to a successful year ahead for all Iowa libraries!**

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## Revamping Certification Courses



### Program Improvements in 2020

2019 is winding down and with it our education offerings for the year. In turning the calendar page, our staff is anxious to share exciting education news coming in 2020--the State Library will be revamping our certification program for directors and staff !

The Public Library Management courses (PLM) along with the Public Library Support Staff course (PLS) will be getting a welcome face-lift in 2020. While the class content has been revised several times over the years to keep current with trends and changes in laws and procedures, the actual delivery format has stayed largely the same. Additionally, in November we welcomed Samantha Bouwers as our new Continuing Education Consultant. Samantha will be instrumental in bringing forward a fresh approach to online education.

Because of this revamp, the State Library will not schedule PLM or PLS next year in its current form. Library directors who need to complete certification to achieve standards and / or to achieve accreditation will be given an extension; we'll work with all individuals affected by this change.

### Re-certification

Please note that this new process only affects initial certification. All library staff and directors needing to re-certify can take any classes at any time, whether from the State Library of Iowa or from other education providers. Look to our [C.E. Catalog](#) for classes like **ILOC—Innovative Iowa Libraries Online Conference** coming up on **January 16**. There are **All Iowa Reads** webinars scheduled in late January, another **Big Ideas Book Discussion** program in February, and more to come in the spring.

Again, the coming certification reboot will not impact anyone up for re-certification. Assuming everyone up for re-certification this month has earned the 45 credit hours needed to renew by December 31, 2019 then proceed to apply for re-certification by January 31, 2020.

### Stay Tuned!

We'll be ready with more detailed information by the January 6<sup>th</sup> **Monday Morning Eye-Opener**. In the meantime, you're welcome to contact Samantha Bouwers with questions [samantha.bouwers@iowa.gov](mailto:samantha.bouwers@iowa.gov)

## Upcoming ...



Look to the [C.E. Catalog](#) for a preview of continuing education in the new year. From **ILOC**—our all day online conference on **January 16**—to **All Iowa Reads** webinars later in January to another **Big Ideas Book Discussion** in February, there's much more to come in 2020 when our education theme will focus on project management.

In the meantime, for many library directors and staff, December is the month to gather certification credits and make sure you have enough to renew. If your certification expires on December 31, 2019, then you will need to apply for re-certification in January 2020. Click the button to learn how.

[Re-certification Instructions](#)

**State Library offices will be closed for the New Year's Day holiday on Wednesday.**

From everyone on staff at the State Library of Iowa,  
wishing you a **Happy and Healthy New Year!**



## Monday Morning Eye-Opener

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